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The New Hork Times

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Mr. William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill,

I want to give you a little background about my reporting for the magazine piece to avoid any misunderstanding over the sourcing for some of the information.

The story contains a list of some of the subjects covered in national intelligence estimates and a number of CIA budget figures. Similar information was included in the text you showed me of the speech you gave to agency employees last fall. At the time, you asked that I treat those parts of the speech as off-the-record material, and I agreed.

In the course of my reporting, I talked to a large number of current and former agency officials, Congressional sources and senior members of the Reagan Administration. Some of them told me the same things that you mentioned in your speech. These sources asked only that I not attribute the information to them by name. The result was that I felt free to use the information, but I want you to understand that your speech was not the source.

The story will be published this Sunday, Jan. 16. I appreciate the time you and your staff gave me and hope you found our talks as tositive a dialogue as I did.

 Best regards,	

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